Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W

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R 221425Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 884

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 7536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, CH, KN

SUBJ: ROMANIAN DELEGATION LEAVES CHINA

REF: BUCHAREST 7316

1. SCINTEIA (DECEMBER 22, 1976) REPORTS THAT HIGH-LEVEL ROMANIAN PARTY-STATE DELEGATION LED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GHEORGHE OPREA AND RCP SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STEFAN ANDREI (REFTEL) HAS NOW LEFT PEKING. WE ARE TOLD BY EE COLLEAGUES THAT NEXT STOP WILL BE NORTH KOREA, WHICH IS LOGICAL SINCE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR WAS ALSO PRESENT WHEN DELEGATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPARTED BUCHAREST DECEMBER 14.

2. FOR A NON-CEAUSESCU TRIP, CHINA VISIT BY OPREA
AND ANDREI HAS RECEIVED GOOD MEDIA COVERAGE HERE,
INCLUDING BACK-PAGE PHOTO OF OPREA WITH CCP CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG
IN DECEMBER 18 SCINTEIA. DESCRIPTION OF MEETING

WITH CHINESE LEADER NOTED THAT CHINA UNDERLINED ITS INTENTION TO "SUSTAIN IN THE FUTURE THE FIGHT OF THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE FOR THE INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY."

3. COMMENT: AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, CHINESE EMBASSY IN BUCHAREST HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT UNEASY OVER RECENT SOVIET-ROMANIAN DEVELOPMENTS. ROMANIANS IN TURN MAY HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH WILLINGNESS OF NEW CHINESE LEADERSHIP TO MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA. BOTH SIDES THEREFORE HAD MUCH TO TALK ABOUT, IN ADDITION TO TRADE, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT MUTUAL ASSURANCES WERE FORTHCOMING ALL AROUND. WHEN QUESTIONED ON ROMANIAN DELEGATION TO CHINA, SOVIETS HERE HAVE PERFECTED A RESIGNED SHRUG OF THE SHOULDERS ACCOMPANIED BY A PAINED EXPRESSION, BOTH OF WHICH ADEQUATELY CONVEY THEIR SENTIMENTS.

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